



U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
New England District

BUILDING STRONG.

CANAL SERVICE ROAD SAFETY GUIDELINES

CAPE COD CANAL – Recreational use of the Cape Cod Canal service roads has become very popular resulting in congested conditions. Regardless of whether you are bicycling, walking, jogging, skating, or fishing, if you follow the rules, your trip will be safer and more enjoyable. Help make the multi-use service roads safe for everyone by using the following guidelines:

Be Courteous.

All users, including bicyclists, joggers, walkers, wheelchairs, and skaters, should be respectful of other users regardless of their mode of travel, speed or level of skill.

Be Predictable.

Travel in a consistent and predictable manner. Always look behind before changing positions on the road. Keep pets leashed and under control. Mind the movements of your children along the road. When stopping, beware of others approaching you from behind and make sure they know you are pulling over.

Don't Block The Road.

Use no more than half the trail so as not to block the flow of other users. When stopped, move off of the trail and do not block the road with chairs, fishing gear or any other equipment or items.

Have You Outgrown The Canal Service Road?

Trails have limits. The Canal is not suited for those who wish to travel at a high rate of speed. It is too narrow and often too congested for riding fast. Selecting the right location is safer and more enjoyable for all concerned. Bicyclists who wish to travel at a high rate of speed often endanger others and need to find other sites. **YIELD TO SLOWER AND ON-COMING TRAFFIC.**

Slow Down Stay Safe

Reduced your speed when approaching access points, narrow sections, curves that obscure visibility, and when special hazard exists with respect to pedestrians or other traffic, or by reason of weather or roadway conditions. Speed shall be controlled as may be necessary to avoid colliding with others. Negligent operation may result in fines and/or removal from the service road. Negligent operation means to travel in a manner that endangers or is likely to endanger any persons or property.

Yield to Official Vehicles Using the Service Road

The primary purpose of the service roads is to provide project wide access to government and contractor vehicles and personnel for the operation and maintenance of the Canal. All users must give way to authorized vehicles and must not interfere with or impede government officials utilizing the service roads.

Keep Right.

Stay as near to the right side of the road as is safe, except when passing another user.

Give Audible Warning BEFORE Passing.

Give a clear audible signal before passing. Give the person you are passing time to respond. Watch for their reaction. So that you can hear these signals, don't wear headphones on the trail.

Pass On The Left.

Pass others, going your direction, on their left. **YIELD TO SLOWER AND ON-COMING TRAFFIC.** Use hand signals to alert those behind you of your moves. Look ahead and back to make sure the lane is clear before you pull out and pass. Pass with ample separation and do not move back to the right until safely past. **REMEMBER: KIDS AND PETS CAN BE UNPREDICTABLE.**

Use Lights At Night.

Be equipped with lights when using the service roads at any time from dusk to dawn. The service roads are dark and lighting exists primarily for navigation purposes. Pedestrians, Bicyclists and other users should have lights that illuminate their route and improve their visibility to all other users.

Always Exercise Due Care And Caution.

The safe integration of various forms of recreation taking place on the Canal service roads requires attentive and responsible behavior from everyone who enjoys their use.

For More Information Contact:

Park Manager
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Cape Cod Canal Field Office
P.O. Box 1555
Buzzards Bay, MA 02532-1555
Phone: 508-759-4431